環境・SDGs 経済安全保障 #Japan #Refgee

# 非公開: Severe troubles between Turkish Kurd Refugees and Japanese

この記事を編集

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## Summary

1.There have been frequent troubles between residents and Turkish Kurdish self-proclaimed refugees in Warabi City and Kawaguchi City, Saitama Prefecture,

2. The Kurds drove dangerously, left trash behind, and threatened residents. A fatal hit-and-run accident occurred.

3. The local administration and Japanese media are leaving the problem untouched. I insist on protecting the human rights of Japanese people.

（私の英語能力は低いので、文章に問題があったら指摘してほしい）
（As the author, my English skill is poor, so please point out mistakes.）

（Photo1）Ukrainian refugees in Belarus. (iStock) I don't think Turkish Kurds seeking asylum in Japan are refugees in the same situation.

## Trials for the good-natured Japanese people

The situation in Japan, which used to be peaceful with few troubles and conflicts between foreigners and Japanese, is changing.There are Turkish Kurds who say they are persecuted by the Turkish government and are political refugees. About 2,000 of these Kurds live in Saitama Prefecture, an industrial area near Tokyo. And troubles between them and the residents are increasing.

Local governments in Japan do not respond positively to problems for fear of criticism of human rights. The mass media in Japan has a strong liberal tone, advocating consideration for human rights. Therefore, they do not report this issue. Human rights activists insist only on the rights of refugees and do not deal with solving this problem.

Japanese people are troubled and frightened in Japan because of foreigners who came without permission. As a Japanese, I find that fact strange and will improve it.

Japan is a highly homogeneous country. And most Japanese are unaware of the complicated political issues in the Middle East and the history of Turkey's struggle with the Kurdish issue. And the national character of the Japanese people is that they are trustworthy and kind. Troubles with foreign Kurds are attracting attention in Japan. The

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Japanese are being forced to change their attitudes about the issue of foreigners.

## Troubles caused by Kurds is occurring in Saitama Prefecture

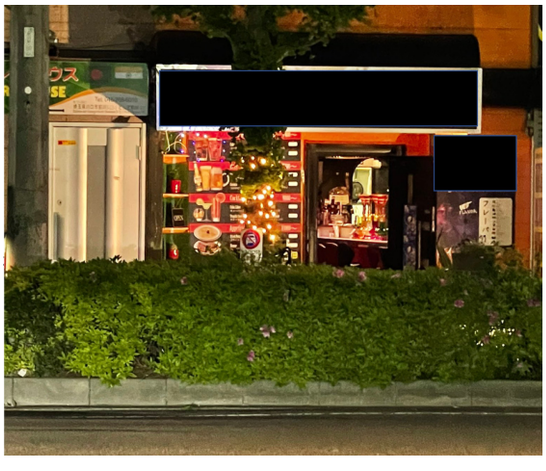
What kind of troubles do Kurds have with residents? A Japanese man in his 30s living in Kawaguchi City said:
'When the Japanese government restricted going out to prevent coronavirus infections, it distributed 100,000 yen per person to residents and 50,000 yen to low-income earners. Kurds rushed to the city hall to receive the subsidy. They got it.The Japanese were wary of infection during the corona epidemic, kept quiet and wore masks.The Kurds were loud and noisy in the city hall and the streets and did not wear masks.'

'Young Kurdish men drive around in modified cars. There is a lot of dangerous driving and noise. An my acquaintance was involved in a problem and I was present at it.
A car driven by a Kurdish driver crashed into an acquaintance's house. When he called the police, Kurds gathered about 20 men and shouted loudly, in a language we didn't understand, and threatened us. I was so scared. There was a Japanese woman who married one of the group among them.She translated. Kurds repeated. "This is discrimination." "Why are we being criticized?"'

'There are a few Kurdish-owned restaurants and bars in Kawaguchi. Young Kurds hang out there. They are open until midnight. Japanese restaurants close their doors. However, they open the windows and doors, play karaoke all the time, make noise until late at night, and the noise is a nuisance. They throw cigarette butts and trash on the street, urinate on street corners, etc. For Japanese people who like cleanliness, their behavior is unpleasant and abnormal.'

'Kurdish men picking up young Japanese women and harassing them have long been a problem. If a Kurdish man marries a Japanese woman, it will be easier for him to stay in Japan. Also, Japanese people have a culture of looking away. They stare at others. Resident women and children are terrified.'

'Kawaguchi City is also home to Chinese, Korean, and Indian residents. Other ethnic groups have troubles, but less than the Kurds. A network is being formed among local residents to stop the damage caused by the Kurds.'



(Photo2) Kurdish owned bar. They stay open until midnight and leave the door open. This causes noise problems. The store name removed

I think that residents' anxiety and anger are natural. I want to bring back a peaceful life to the local residents.

In 2021, a 19-year-old Turkish Kurd caused a fatal hit-and-run accident, killing a 69-year-old Japanese. He was arrested at the airport while trying to leave for Turkey. Kurdish-related cases are increasing in Japan, but even if a Turkish Kurdish commits a crime, both the police and the media publicize them as "Turks." This would be offensive to Turks.

## Turkish Kurds claim persecution by Turkish government

What kind of people are the Kurds here? Kawaguchi and Warabi are industrial areas near Tokyo. They come to Japan with Turkish passports and tourist visas. After that, they apply to the Japanese government saying, "I am a political refugee." Even if they are not approved, they apply again and again and remain in a legally ambiguous position for years. The Japanese government regulates the entry of foreign workers into the country. This way Kurds can stay in Japan.

This way they have been since the 1990s when Japan's economy was one of the world's best. Some families have children. Even now that the Japanese economy is in decline, they do not leave. Most of them are not rich.

Some of them earn money by running industrial waste disposal and used car export businesses, which the Japanese dislike. The Kurdish owners of these companies bring in relevant people from the Kurdish region.

The Turkish government has not pursued a policy of oppression against the Kurds. Turkish Kurds in Japan claim to be persecuted by the Turkish government, but I think that claim is wrong. A journalist familiar with Japan's security issues points out. "It is estimated that about 10% of Japanese residents are Turkish Kurds who are politically persecuted. Some Kurds involved in the drug trade in Europe and Terror. But most of Japanese people don't know that fact.

Turkey and Japan have a close and good friendship. Kurds have nothing to do with Turks living in Japan. The Turkish embassy does not get involved in Kurdish troubles because they claim political asylum.

In 2015, a brawl between Turks and Kurds broke out at the Turkish Embassy in Tokyo during the overseas voting in Turkish elections. The Kurds raised the flag of a Kurdish terrorist organization PKK, which angered the Turks.

An acquaintance of mine, a Turkish trader, was worried, saying, "It's embarrassing for Turkish Kurds to bother Japanese people. It will worsen the relationship between Japan and Turkey." And he criticizes the Kurds claims, saying, "The Turks are not persecuting the Kurds. We are just refusing Kurdish terrorists."

When I published this report in Japanese, there were dozens of responses and impressions from Turkish people on Twitter. There were also replies from Sweden and Germany. Everyone was outraged by the actions of the Kurds in Japan. Similar troubles were spreading in Turkey and Europe.

## Turkish Kurd troubles will trigger changes in Japanese society.

The Japanese government is trying to revise the immigration control law and create a mechanism to send people back if their refugee applications are not approved. The bill is under deliberation in the Japanese Diet.

Around the parliament, Kurdish children demonstrated against it on April 30. In Japan, children are not involved in political movements. This was a strange scene, and the Japanese felt it eerie.

(Photo3)Kurdish children demonstrating outside Japanese parliament on a weekday

In Japan, the Kurds are self-assertive. They don't take Japanese situation into consideration. There is an Latin proverb that says, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." Not all Japanese welcome the bad, rude Kurds. I want Kurds who do not follow Japanese rules and customs to go home.

As in Western countries, when it comes to the refugee problem, the Japanese government and Japanese people are divided between their true intentions and their public appearances. Many Japanese sympathize with the plight of refugees. But when their lives are threatened, they reject them.

Unlike countries in Europe and the Middle East, Japan has a strong homogeneity in society and few ethnic groups. Ordinary people have little knowledge of refugees and ethnic issues in Europe and the Middle East. However, that situation will change dramatically in the future. The Kurdish troubles may be the beginning. The good-natured Japanese will change their minds in the face of the harsh realities of the world.

However, I have yet to hear the opinion of the Kurds. In that respect, I admit that this report is of one-sided opinion and of poor quality. In the future, I would like to collect information and report their stories.

(Japanese Version)

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